Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures; and 11) a Petition for Extension of Time up to and including November 9, 2001.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Marked up copies of the following amended paragraphs are attached hereto as Exhibit 1. Clean copies of the amended paragraphs are attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

On page 6 please replace the paragraph beginning "Fig. 6 is a nucleotide sequence encoding a portion of the heavy chain..." with the following paragraph:

C1 Fig. 6 is a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) encoding a portion of the heavy chain variable region of the p75 heterodimer specific 16G2 antibody, and the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 2) deduced from this nucleotide sequence.

On page 6 please replace the paragraph beginning "Fig. 7 is a nucleotide sequence encoding a portion of the heavy chain variable region..." with the following paragraph:

C2 Fig. 7 is a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 3) encoding a portion of the heavy chain variable region of the p75 heterodimer specific 20E11 antibody, and the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 4) deduced from this nucleotide sequence.

On page 14, please replace the paragraph beginning "In particular, the present invention provides four antibodies, 5F2, ..." with the following paragraph:

C3 In particular, the present invention provides four antibodies, 5F2, 16F2, 16G2 and 20E11 to the p75 heterodimer of human IL-12 which are produced by hybridomas having ATCC designation numbers HB-12446, HB-12447, HB-12449, and HB-12448, respectively.

These hybridomas were deposited on December 11, 1997, with the ATCC (American Type Culture Collection), 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209, under the provisions of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure, and comply with the criteria set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.801-1.809 regarding availability and permanency of deposits. However, the present invention is not limited to these four antibodies. Any antibodies having the characteristics described herein are encompassed.

C3

On page 14 please replace the paragraph beginning "Fig. 6 provides the nucleotide sequence encoding a portion of the heavy chain variable region..." with the following paragraph:

Fig. 6 provides the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) encoding a portion of the heavy chain variable region of the p75 heterodimer specific 16G2 antibody and the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 2) deduced from this nucleotide sequence. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 3) encoding a portion of the heavy chain variable region of the p75 heterodimer specific 20E11 antibody and the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 4) deduced from this nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 3) is provided in Fig. 7. It will be understood by those skilled in the art that conservative amino acid changes can be made in the constant regions of the heterodimer specific IL-12 antibodies herein without significantly affecting the antigen binding specificity/affinity. Heterodimer specific IL-12 antibodies containing amino acid changes in the variable framework regions or complementary determining regions can be expected to have a greater effect on antigen binding specificity/affinity.

C4

On page 31 please replace the paragraph beginning "The nucleotide sequences of a portion of the variable region of the immunoglobulin..." with the following paragraph:

C5

The nucleotide sequences of a portion of the variable region of the immunoglobulin heavy chain gene encompassing framework region (FR) 1, complementarity determining region (CDR) 1, FR2, CDR2, FR3, CDR3, and FR4 of IL-12 antibodies produced by hybridoma cell lines HIL-12F3-16G2 and HIL-12F3-20E11 and the deduced amino acid sequences thereof are shown in Fig. 6 (SEQ ID NO: 1), (SEQ ID NO: 2) and Fig. 7, (SEQ ID NO: 3), (SEQ ID NO: 4), respectively. The CDR sequences are underlined. Comparison of available sequence information showed that the heavy chains of antibodies produced by hybridomas HIL-12F3-16G2 and HIL-12F3-20E11 exhibit 94% homology at the DNA level and 93% similarity at the amino acid level.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 34-36, without prejudice.

Amend claim 20 to read as follows:

C6

20. (Amended) The antibody of claim 19, wherein the antibody has been humanized.